SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED JUDICIAL BRANCH BILL)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to jurors, including jury manager authority to
- 2 excuse or defer juror service and public access to juror
- 3 information.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

S.F. H.F.

- 1 Section 1. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. **607A.6A** Jury manager authority to 2 excuse or defer juror service.
- 3 The chief judge of the judicial district may authorize a jury
- 4 manager to excuse persons from juror service in accordance with
- 5 section 607A.4, 607A.5, or 607A.6 and to defer persons from
- 6 juror service in accordance with section 607A.4, 607A.5, or
- 7 607A.6, or for any other reason.
- 8 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 607A.48 Public access to juror
- 9 information.
- 10 Public access to juror and prospective juror information
- 11 shall be limited. The addresses and dates of birth of
- 12 prospective jurors are confidential and not subject to
- 13 disclosure without an order of the court.
- 14 EXPLANATION
- The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
- the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 17 This bill relates to jurors, including jury manager
- 18 authority to excuse or defer jurors and public access to juror
- 19 information.
- 20 The bill provides that with approval by the chief judge
- 21 of the judicial district, a jury manager may excuse or defer
- 22 jurors in accordance with Code section 607A.4, 607A.5, or
- 23 607A.6. Code section 607A.4 provides minimum qualifications
- 24 for jury service. Code section 607A.5 provides certain
- 25 conditions for automatic excuse from jury service. Code
- 26 section 607A.6 provides certain conditions for discretionary
- 27 excuse from jury service. The bill provides that a jury
- 28 manager may defer, but not excuse, persons from juror service
- 29 for reasons beyond those enumerated in these Code sections.
- 30 The bill provides that public access to juror and
- 31 prospective juror information is limited. The bill provides
- 32 that prospective juror addresses and dates of birth are
- 33 confidential and are not subject to disclosure without an order
- 34 of the court.